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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Estonia)

SUBJECT Increased Security Measures on the Estonian Islands of
Saare-Maa and Hiiumaa

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1. "The Estonian islands, Saare-Maa and Hiiumaa, are under the control of the Soviet military authorities and completely isolated from the mainland. Strict security measures are in force.
2. "The local population, employed mainly in the state owned fishing enterprises, are greatly restricted in their movements. No permits are issued for the northern rayons of Hiiumaa, such as Kopu, Manspaa, the port of Karala and Reigi. Soviet naval and air force garrisons are known to be located at all those points.
3. "At the beginning of February 1953 the Soviet military authorities dismissed administrative officials at the Department of the Fishing Industry in the rayons of Keina and Kassar on the island of Hiiumaa, without previously notifying the Oblispolkom at Parnu, to which the island administratively belongs.
4. "Almost the whole of Hiiumaa Island is covered by a network of Soviet military airfields for fighter planes. Day and night one can see jet planes flying in groups of 5 to 15 on the route Hiiumaa - Leningrad.
5. [redacted] order, issued by (inu) Nimepuu, chief of the Party control of the Parnu oblast, has been in force. It restricts the use of the rayon radio transmitting stations on Hiiumaa Island. The stations can operate only during hours arranged in advance with the Soviet military authorities."

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